

EIGHT TOWNS
SHAKEN UPBy Severe Earthquake in an
Italian Province

MANY LIVES WERE LOST

Land on Seashore Subsided, Causing a
Vast Flood and Entailing Immense
Loss of Property—Many Thou-
sands Homeless.

Rome, Dec. 28.—Eight towns in the province of Cantanaro have been heavily damaged by a series of earthquakes. Messengers received today say that seven persons were killed and twenty-two were injured. It is feared, however, that the casualties will far exceed those figures as the affected towns are said to be practically destroyed. Along the seashore the land subsided in many places, causing a vast flood and entailing an enormous loss of property.

The province of Cantanaro is one of the most important in Italy and has a population of half a million people. Many thousands were rendered homeless. The principal towns to suffer from the earthquake were Stefanacchi, Mezzocastello, Majerato and Santofio. The government of Italy is making strenuous efforts to relieve the conditions of the unfortunate people.

BUILDINGS CRASHED.

Mountain Town Was Again Shaken By
Earthquake.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 28.—A despatch from Virginia City, Mont., last night says that at 4:30 o'clock that region was shaken by the severest of a series of many seismic disturbances that have been going on for more than a week. The electric plant was put out of commission.

During last week Virginia City experienced more than 30 slight earthquakes. Last Monday two shocks within 10 minutes of each other, drove people into the streets, caused cracks in several buildings and did considerable damage. Yesterday afternoon's tremor further cracked buildings, threw down more plaster and shook dishes from shelves and tables.

GETS AMONG CHILDREN.

Foot and Mouth Disease Found Near
Rochester, N. Y.

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Ten cases of what is supposed to be the foot and mouth disease have developed in children of five families in the town of Clarkson, Monroe county, and one of the ten, an infant, died. The children that died had shown symptoms that resemble certain meningitis. The town health officer has sent a report of the suspected spread of the cattle disease among the children to Commissioner Porter of the state department of health.

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Five children of one family are believed by the local health officer, Dr. S. G. Hernandez, to have the foot and mouth disease, and it is held to be significant that these five all used milk, while the other members of the family did not. A re-inspection of the cattle in the vicinity has been ordered.

The cattle from which the children are thought to have taken the disease were in some cases infected with the foot and mouth disease while in some the cattle had been pronounced free from the malady.

The following symptoms are common to all cases: Chills, in some cases very severe; fever, reaching as high as 100 degrees; pains in head; intolerance of light; nausea and vomiting after the child being the last of the symptoms to leave; sores about nose, mouth and nostrils were present in six cases; nose bled in two cases; cerebral complications in three cases, and general eruption in one case.

BURGLAR SARCASTIC.

Says He Pulled Watchdog's Tail But
Fido's Owner Forgives Him.

Portland, Me., Dec. 28.—The house of one of the most prominent residents of this city was entered Saturday night, and when the unknown intruder had selected some clothing that suited him and had eaten a square meal without awakening any one about the place, he wrote the following note, which was found this morning:

"Why don't you poison that dog of yours? I went up stairs and pulled his tail and he just snored a bit louder, that's all. The fruit was very nice. To, ta."

Yours truly,

Bill Sykes, alias Raffles.

A reply has been prepared by the dog's master, who expressed his disappointment that such a gentlemanly burglar should suggest killing the faithful watchdog because he was inappreciated with age, and says he is grateful for the care taken not to arouse the members of the family. The burglar was further told that he was welcome to the food and clothing.

EYES GOUGED OUT.

Wealthy Warren, Pa., Merchant Injured
In Peculiar Accident.

Warren, Pa., Dec. 28.—William Ritchie, a prominent merchant, sustained injuries in a fall yesterday that will probably result in blindness in both eyes. He was walking near a church in the wake of a Sunday school crowd who had dropped hells of grapes from their Christmas boxes. Slipping on one of these his face struck the sharp pointed guard rail of a stairway, one eye being gouged out and the other badly lacerated. His nose was also broken and his face cut and bruised.

FLAMES SPREAD
VERY RAPIDLYEight Buildings in Heart of Oneonta, N.
Y., Were Wiped Out Early Sun-
day Morning—One Owned
By Bennington Man.

Oneonta, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Fire which for a time early Sunday threatened the destruction of the whole business section of Oneonta, destroyed the Arlington hotel and seven other buildings in the heart of the city, causing a loss of fully \$100,000. Many of the occupants of the hotel and of the living apartments in the other buildings had narrow escapes, none of them being able to save any of their effects and most of them being compelled to make hurried exits in scanty attire from the burning structures.

While the occupants of the burned buildings were able to make their escape unscathed, the personal belongings and furniture of something like a score of families were destroyed. The quick spread of the fire soon made entrance to the business houses in the blazing row impossible and only a small part of their stocks could be saved. The concerns in the burned row which suffered practically complete losses were the Factory Store, R. E. Townsend, job printing plant, George Thomas, shoe and millinery parlors, bakery of E. M. Campbell, Arlington hotel, offices of Oneonta Coal company, cigar and tobacco store of L. D. Slade, drug store of George Slade, Marble's pool room, the liquor store of James Morton and the millinery parlors of M. and L. Stringham.

The blocks were owned by the First National Bank, E. R. Ford, H. E. Huntington, George I. Wilder, L. H. and Perry Blend of Oneonta; Dr. William B. Stewart of Bennington, Vt., and Mendel brothers of New York City.

Firms in the new buildings across the street which suffered losses are the Oneonta department store and Roman Brothers, the two largest department stores in the city and C. O. Blodman, jeweler and Stevens & Stevens & Baker hardware dealers.

At one time it appeared that the whole business section was doomed and aid was asked from Cooperstown, but before the department of that village had started word was sent that it was not needed. The cause of the fire is unknown.

ALL NORTH AMERICA

Invited to Proposed Conference on Pre-
serving Resources.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Announcement was made at the White House yesterday of a proposed conference looking toward the conservation of the natural resources of all North America, to be held at the White House February 18 next.

Letters suggesting the plan have been addressed by President Roosevelt to the governor-general and to the premier of Canada and to President Diaz of Mexico. They will be delivered to the officials in person by Gifford Pinchot, chairman of the national conservation commission, and chief forester of the United States, whom President Roosevelt has chosen as personal representative to convey the invitations and to confer with the authorities of the two governments. Mr. Pinchot will first visit Canada, leaving today. He will then carry the invitation to President Diaz at Mexico City. The president's letter to Lord Grey, governor general of Canada, is in part as follows:

"In May of the present year, the governors of the several states and territories of this union met in the White House to confer with the president and with each other concerning the amount and condition of the natural resources of this country, and to consider the most effective means for conserving them. The conference included also the members of the supreme court, the cabinet, and members of both houses of Congress, together with representatives of the great associations of citizens concerned with natural resources. The conference was followed by the appointment of conservation commissions of the nation and a majority of the states.

"It is evident that natural resources are not limited by the boundary lines which separate nations, and that the need for conserving them upon this continent is as wide as the area upon which they exist. In view, therefore, of these considerations, and of the close bonds of friendship and mutual aims which exist between Canada and the United States, I take especial pleasure in inviting you to designate representatives of the government of Canada to meet and consult with representatives of the United States in the city of Washington on February 8, 1909. The purpose of the conference I have the honor to propose is to consider mutual interests involved in the conservation of natural resources, and in this great task to deliberate upon the practicability of preparing a general plan adapted to promote the welfare of the nations concerned.

"I have this day addressed a similar invitation to the republic of Mexico, expressing my hope that representatives of that government also will be present and participate in the proposed conference of the natural resources of North America.

"The conclusions of such a conference, while wholly advisory in character, could hardly fail to yield important beneficial results, both in a better knowledge of the natural resources of each nation on the part of the others and in suggestion for concurrent action for the protection of mutual interests related to conservation."

STOLEN MARE DISCOVERED.

Valuable Pomfret Animal Driven Into
Woodstock From Lebanon, N. H.

Woodstock, Dec. 28.—A valuable mare owned by Frank Perkins, which was stolen from A. E. Fuller's place in Pomfret last July, was driven into this village Saturday afternoon by M. H. Kenney from West Lebanon, N. H., where she had been hired from a livery stable.

Sheriff E. A. Thomas saw the mare and believing she was the stolen animal took charge of her and she was turned over to her owner this morning. The mare was brought to West Lebanon, N. H., a short time ago with other horses from Boston and bought by Laverlyman Tucker.

A SENSATION
IN KING CASEDefense Does Not Introduce
Evidence

AND ASKS FOR DISMISSAL

Instead of Presenting Testimony to Com-
bat Government's Case, Defense
Claims No Evidence of Larceny
Was Shown.

Boston, Dec. 28.—The defense in the case of Cardenia F. King, the broker who is accused of embezzlement of money from clients in thirty-one counts, sprang a big surprise in Judge Schofield's court today when it rested its case on the evidence of the government, declaring that no larceny had been shown. The district attorney was, therefore, immediately the defendant entered a petition for dismissal of the case, and the court then heard the arguments of the attorneys for King. The government concluded putting in its evidence on the day before Christmas, at which time it was announced that the evidence for the defense would be received on the Monday following. The court was, therefore, prepared to hear the evidence when the motion for dismissal was made on the ground that the government had not proved a larceny.

BOSTON FIRM GETS
ASSIGNEE TODAYJames F. Jackson Named as Assignee for
H. W. Poor & Co., Bankers and
Bond Brokers.

Boston, Dec. 28.—James F. Jackson, formerly chairman of the Massachusetts railroad commission, was today named assignee for the Boston firm of H. W. Poor & Co., bankers and bond dealers, whose suspension was made in New York Saturday. It is understood that the business of the Boston office of H. W. Poor & Co. is conducted on an entirely different basis than the New York office and that it was in much better condition than the main office.

WORLD DIDN'T END.

Followers of Spangler Were Disappoint-
ed Yesterday.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 28.—The end of the world did not come yesterday as Lee J. Spangler, a local prophet, had predicted it would; but the prophet himself disappeared at four o'clock Sunday morning and since then has not been seen.

Spangler, it is said, cautioned all the "saints" of his sect to be watchful for the great event, for Sunday surely would see the end of the world. Therefore a crowd of women followers, dressed in white, went to Oak hill cemetery yesterday morning to await the event. The superstitious of the burring ground drove them out.

Scores of other adherents of Spangler climbed South mountain, where the "prophet" had promised to meet them, saying there together they could view life passing away of old mother earth. But as the hours passed and the predicted phenomenon did not materialize, and Spangler himself did not appear, they plodded their way down the mountain side many of them in apparent disgust.

BROTHERS DROWNED.

One Lad Breaks Through Ice and Other
Tries to Rescue Him.

Springfield, Dec. 28.—Ernest and Howard Simmons, aged 10 and 12, respectively, sons of Robert M. Simmons of 38 Boylston street yesterday afternoon by falling through the ice. The bodies were recovered.

The boys had been playing on the ice all the afternoon when Ernest broke through 90 feet from shore. Howard seized a broom and, going out, tried to rescue his brother, but fell in himself. William J. McGill, a lame man, got a plank and tried to force it out on the ice to the boys, but they went down before he could reach them.

DECLARED INSANE.

Wealthy Manufacturer Was Belaboring
a Lamp-post.

New York, Dec. 28.—Samuel Ruebuck, retired millionaire manufacturer of weather strips, was removed to King's county hospital for observation as to his sanity, after having been arrested in Brooklyn yesterday, when found belaboring a lamp post with a heavy walking stick. The eccentricities of the aged man have frequently attracted attention within the past few years and in 1905, alienists reported him mentally sound, although quarrelsome and eccentric.

A VERMONT GIRL SHOT.

Wounded by Jealous Lover in Wash-
ington Who Committed Suicide.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Lawrence V. Peters, aged 25, yesterday committed suicide in a boarding house at Alexandria, Va., after shooting his sweetheart, Jennie W. Beaudette, 31 years old, a silk mill worker. The tragedy is said to have been provoked by jealousy. The woman, who says she is a former resident of Hartford, Vt., probably will recover.

TO QUARRY IN ALASKA.

Vermont Marble Company Ships Ma-
chinery There.

Proctor, Dec. 28.—The Vermont Marble company has shipped two carloads of quarrying machinery to Alaska to operate marble quarries there.

BURIAL AT GROTON.

D. F. Clark's Body Brought From Penn-
sylvania Saturday.

Groton, Dec. 28.—The body of D. F. Clark, accompanied by his wife and mother, Mrs. Emma Clark, and Howard Fletcher of Boston, Mass., arrived here Saturday morning and funeral services were held at the Methodist church at 2:30. A large number were present, including many from surrounding towns. Rev. E. A. Bishop of Montpelier officiated, assisted by Rev. M. S. Eddy of this place. Six of Mr. Clark's former associates in Montpelier acted as bearers, A. E. Niles, Frank Sherburne, Henry Holt, Fred Gleason, Bruce McDonald and Mr. Dirlot.

The abundance of choice and beautiful flowers bore impressive testimony of the love of hosts of friends. Burial was in the family lot in the village cemetery, beside his father, who died ten years ago.

Besides those already mentioned, there were present from Montpelier Mr. F. W. Moore, Mr. A. J. Sibley, Mrs. W. A. Stowell, Mrs. E. A. Rand, Mrs. G. E. Hunt, Mrs. Kate Love, Mrs. A. E. Niles, Mrs. L. P. Gleason and Miss Esther Hathaway; Mrs. Albert Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Cochran, Wells River; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Fletcher, Boston, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. Horace Armstrong, Chicago; William Ricker and Mrs. Graven, Woodville, N. H.; and Dr. Ricker, Wells River.

The Montpelier and Wells River train was held thirty minutes at this station Saturday afternoon to accommodate the party of sixteen from Montpelier who were here to attend the funeral.

WAS PROMINENT IN CHURCH.

Mrs. John Hill of Plainfield Died Yes-
terday.

Plainfield, Dec. 28.—Harriet Kinney Hill, wife of John Hill, died early Sunday morning after a long illness of valvular heart trouble. Mrs. Hill was born in Plainfield July 17, 1839. In her early girlhood she began singing in the Congregational church choir and became a member of that church when about fourteen years old. She was also organist of that church for a few years.

She has been a great worker in the church all her life and her loss will be mourned by a host of friends.

She was married to John Hill Jan. 28, 1864. Four children were born to them, Mrs. Charles Perry of Marshfield; Edson of East Barre; Archie, who has lived with his parents for the past few years, and Dean of Boston. She is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Frances Thurston of Barre.

The funeral services will be held from her late home Tuesday afternoon at one o'clock, Rev. Perrin B. Fisk officiating.

THOMAS WALDO DEAD.

First Selectman of Williamstown and a
Prominent Citizen.

Williamstown, Dec. 28.—Thomas Waldo, first selectman and one of the town's well-to-do farmers, died at his home in the edge of the village here this morning about 4 o'clock with pneumonia. He had been sick two weeks. Mr. Waldo is survived by a wife and two daughters, and two sisters, Mrs. Albert Goodrich and Mrs. E. G. Jackson, both of this town. He was a man of middle age. The funeral will be held Wednesday afternoon.

RED CROSS STAMPS.

Estimated That Three Millions Were
Sold in New England.

Boston, Dec. 28.—Approximately 3,000,000 Red Cross Christmas stamps, the proceeds of which are to be used to relieve and prevent the spread of tuberculosis, were sold throughout the New England states during the Christmas holiday season.

It is estimated that already \$30,000 has been taken in the cost of each stamp being one cent. Many will be used on the New Year's card, and to continue until the first of the year. The plan originated with, and the stamps were sent out by, the bureau of the American Red Cross at Washington. From state distribution offices they were placed in the hands of the various tuberculosis societies, charitable organizations, church clubs, who in turn sent them to the merchants, both large and small. Booths at the different postoffices throughout New England also did excellent work.

DECIDE IT IS SMALLPOX.

William Cabot of Mauch Chunk, Penn.,
Taken Ill at Windsor.

Windsor, Dec. 28.—William Cabot of Mauch Chunk, Penn., an electrical engineer, who with his bride came to Windsor with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Asa Cabot, who live about four miles out of West Windsor, was taken ill Thursday.

Dr. F. S. Martin was called in and found it was a case of smallpox. He called Dr. H. A. Holton, secretary of the state board of health of Brattleboro, who with Dr. Martin diagnosed the case as smallpox today. Mr. Cabot has one other son, Dean Cabot, who is a senior in the Windsor high school.

SHOT THREE BEFORE SUICIDE.

John Storrer of Johnston, Pa., Com-
mits Terrible Crime.

Johnstown, Pa., Dec. 28.—John Storrer, a blacksmith, yesterday shot his wife, her brother and the latter's wife. Mr. and Mrs. William Kurtz of McKeesport and then blew out his own brains in plain view of a crowd of horrified bystanders. Storrer had not been living with his wife for several years. The Kurtzes are both dangerously wounded, but Mrs. Storrer will recover. Storrer was dead when officers arrived.

STRUCK BY TROLLEY.

Rochester, N. Y., Firemen Were Injured
Last Night.

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 28.—While returning from a fire at eleven o'clock last night a horse wagon was struck by a trolley car and badly wrecked while firemen were thrown to the street, two men most severely hurt were taken to a hospital and it is thought that both will recover. Of these Adolph Ransome had a long gash in his forehead, his nose broken, both wrists and the right knee sprained and severe bruises over the whole body.

A COASTING
ACCIDENTFrank Grappone, Aged 4, Gets
Concussion of Brain

STRUCK BY BIG TRAVERSE

Boy Was Playing on Granite Street
Yesterday Afternoon and Got in
Way of Some Older Boys on
Double-runner.

Frank, the four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Grappone of 73 Granite street, lies at his home in a serious condition, as the result of injuries which he received yesterday afternoon. The little fellow was playing with his sled near his home when a double runner, loaded with larger boys, came down the hill from Foster street and turned into Granite street at terrific speed.

The boy tried to get out of the way of the traverse and the boy who was steering the sled tried to turn out for him, but the boy in the road became confused and ran directly in front of the large sled. The blow which he received knocked him down and rendered him unconscious and he was still in this condition when he was carried to his home.

Dr. E. G. Ghidella was called upon and making an examination found that the child was suffering from concussion of the brain and contusions of the abdomen. The boy's condition is fairly comfortable today.

A young fellow named James McKerron was steering the traverse which struck the boy and with him upon the sled were four other boys. McKerron says that he did all that he could not to strike the boy, and the others upon the sled attempted to stop it.

AN INQUIRY STARTED.

Investigating The Death of Mrs. Nora
Strange.

Milford, Mass., Dec. 28.—The authorities have begun an investigation of the death of Mrs. Nora Strange, who came to Milford about a week ago to work in a hotel as a cook. Mrs. Strange was taken ill last Thursday and was removed to the Milford hospital where she died this afternoon. The hospital physicians say that she was a victim of poisoning and the sheriff and other officials will endeavor to ascertain how the poison was administered and whether it was a case of suicide or accident. The body was removed last night to the rooms of an undertaker, where an autopsy will be held.

Little is known of the woman here. She was about 40 years old. Her husband and a son are said to live in Providence.

WILL OFFER JEFFRIES
\$50,000 TO FIGHTPromoter of Burns-Johnson Fight Will
Go as High as \$100,000 if Neces-
sary.

Sidney, N. S. W., Dec. 28.—Hugh McIntosh, the promoter of the Burns-Johnson fight, will leave for America on January 4 to offer Jeffries \$50,000 to meet the negro. He said that he will go as high as \$100,000 if necessary. Burns, with \$200,000, says he has fought his last fight.

The "far, Bill Squires," the local heavy-weight, who thrice has been handily trimmed by Burns, is the only man who has issued a deft to Johnson; and the big Texan has signified his willingness to meet Squires for \$10,000 a side, believing that a fight with the Australian would be like finding so much money in the roadway. It is unlikely, however, in view of the impression Johnson has made here as a fighter, that Squires will be able to find a backer.

Johnson is in perfect condition and shows no marks of the battle with Burns. He has been engaged by a Sydney Music Hall for a term of five weeks for a set consisting of bag punching and the methods employed by him in training. For this work he will receive \$1,750 per week. In February, Johnson will sail for London, where he expects to fight Sam Langford, the American colored heavy-weight, on Derby day before the National Sporting club.

Burns will fight No More.

Burns also is in good condition except for discolorations about the eyes and a badly swollen jaw. At first it was thought that the negro's heavy swings had broken the white man's jaw, but it now turns out that it was only badly bruised.

GIFTS DEDICATED.

Wallingford Congregational Church Holds
Exercises.

Wallingford, Dec. 28.—There were dedicatory services at the Congregational church here last evening, a baptismal font and three memorial windows being unveiled. President John M. Thomas of Middlebury college gave the address. The font was made of Vermont marble and is given by Dr. G. G. Marshall of Rutland in memory of his mother, Mrs. Candace C. Marshall.

One of the windows is given by Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Saunders of Wallingford in memory of their daughter, Katherine M. Saunders, another is the gift of George L. Dale of New York in memory of Edith Munson, Sarah Dale Munson and John Dale. The third window is given by Mrs. Laura E. Scribner of Wallingford for a relative.

BRITISH STEAMSHIP SANK.

Carrying Down All on Board Except the
First Officer.

Newcastle, Australia, Dec. 28.—The British steamship Advance and the Italian bark collided near here this morning. The former sank with all on board except the first officer.

BIG CONSOLIDATION
ANNOUNCED TODAYBoston Merchants' Association and the
Boston Chamber of Commerce
Merged Into Powerful
Organization.

Boston, Dec. 28.—Announcement was made this morning of the consolidation of the Boston Merchants' association and the Boston Chamber of Commerce, commercial bodies, into a new organization, which will be the largest and most influential association in the United States. It will bring together 2,000 of the leading firms, corporations and individuals, representing all the mercantile manufacturers and professional interests. The new body will be named the Boston Chamber of Commerce, and its purpose will be to promote commerce, industry and the public interests of Boston and New England.

BEST BOWLING AVERAGES.

McCarthy of the Queen City Team Is
Still Leading Safely.

The leading averages of the Vermont state bowling league up to date are as follows, showing McCarthy of the Queen City team to be leading still, with Henry Nute of the Crescent team in Barre coming second:

McCarthy, Q. C.	187	31-45
Nute, Cres.	179	42-30
Kennedy, Lyn.	178	22-55
Walsh, Cal.	178	26-42
Averill, Cal.	177	15-50
Barrows, Eth.	176	22-55
Daley, Cap.	176	28-70
Alexander, Cal.	173	50-
Holt, Past.	172	22-50
Kingsbury, Past.	168	23-27
Niles, Q. C.	168	33-53
P. Smith, Past.	167	13-21
D. V. Smith, Cres.	167	25-50
Trenoweth, Cres.	164	24-53
Stearns, Eth.	163	4-30
Odell, Cap.	163	8-51
Whitcomb, All.	162	25-30
Collins, Lyn.	160	2-30

FOUR MEN DROWNED.

When Fish Tug Was Wrecked Against
a Pier.

Frankfort, Mich., Dec. 28.—The 100-ton fish tug Rhine, of Frankfort, was wrecked against one of the harbor piers here Saturday night, trying to make the harbor in a strong southwest gale. She broke in two and the four men comprising her crew were drowned.

THE DEAD:

Capt. Henry Haurath.
Julius Dorry.
Charles Kibby.

Ons Strath.

The loss of the tug was not discovered until today when the cabin of the boat was found on the beach. The cabin clock had stopped at the hour of 7 and from this it is inferred that the wreck occurred early Saturday evening, the victims going to their death almost within a stone's throw of home, but without any means of calling aid.

MAKE A "REQUEST."

That Funeral Services Be Held on Week-
days if Possible.

The following "request" was unanimously agreed to at a meeting of the Ministers' Monday club, which includes most of the ministers of Barre, Montpelier and vicinity:

"In harmony with an oft expressed desire on the part of Christian ministers and funeral directors, we urgently request that funeral services be appointed on week-days in preference to Sunday, except in cases of real necessity.

"In all cases the minister who is desired to officiate should be consulted before the hour for such service is definitely fixed."

The "request" is signed by the secretary of the club, E. O. Thayer, pastor of the Hedding M. E. church.

BUSINESS BOOMS.

Three Big Orders Received by General
Electric Company.

Lynn, Mass., Dec. 28.—The receipt today of an order for \$1,000,000 for turbines from San Francisco and two each of about \$300,000 from the New York Central and the Pennsylvania roads for electrical equipment will increase the force of the General Electric company here from 6,500 to 10,000 men by March. Every department is affected and there is a great lack of skilled mechanics.

TOOK LAUDANUM.

Deserted by Wife, Who Carried Off Their
Four Children.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 28.—Deserted by his wife, who took their four children, John Kittell of Marlboro took laudanum after declaring that all reason for living was gone. He is now in a critical condition.

MARSHFIELD.

Music at the M. E. church since last Sunday afternoon was furnished by a chorus of ladies voices.

Remember the New Year's ball at Folsom's hall Thursday night. Music by the Marshfield orchestra. Refreshments will be served at the usual hour.

TALK OF THE TOWN

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barton visited friends in Northfield yesterday.

Ray P. McGrath returned today from a visit with relatives in Lisbon, N. H.

Dr. W. O. Hutchinson of Washington was a business visitor in the city today.

C. F. Spear, proprietor of the Union restaurant, has an excellent daguer-type of the old Barre Academy building, which he found recently while looking for old-time things in Berlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Collins arrived in the city Saturday night from Fitchburg, Mass., where they have resided for several months. Mr. Collins will work in Miers' barber shop during the winter.

News was received in the city today of the death of John Scott, who died at his home in Ancharlar, Scotland, December 18th. He has two sons, James and William, in the city, and was well known by many Barre people.

BOUGHT MUCH,
PAID IN CHECKSThis Christmas Shopper "Hit"
Barre Merchants

CHECKS NOT BACKED UP

One Merchant Went to Deliver Suit of
Clothes and Found That the
Purchaser Was Not to
Be Found.